LEADERS AMONG US

Duke Med-Peds responds to the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The sweeping pandemic of the COVID-19 illness throughout the world has created enormous obstacles and subsequently generated big changes to our everyday lives. From patient care to medical education, Duke Med-Peds is adapting to the forces of a pandemic. We explore how the residency program and Duke Med-Peds alumni are leading changes in their various work settings in response to COVID-19.

Jane Trinh (2006)- Med-Peds Residency Program
Preparations for the COVID-19 surge in the Triangle area, paired with restrictions placed in the ambulatory and inpatient setting, has forced restructuring of rotations and clinical experiences, including the program’s primary care continuity clinic experience and the Med-Peds Ambulatory rotation, signature experiences for MP residents. Dr. Trinh worked with Dr. Avery (see below) to adjust resident schedules to accommodate for changes in patient care delivery in clinic. One key change is the use of telephone visits for the majority of return visits. The reduction of in-person patient encounters has allowed for reducing the number of residents present in clinic and in turn lowering individual risk of exposure for providers and the patients. As a result, we have had a jump start into learning telemedicine. To maintain ambulatory experiences on the Med-Peds Ambulatory rotation, Dr. Trinh has ensured new opportunities for learning while on this rotation in the VA Acute Care Clinic, telemedicine in the Med-Peds House Officer Continuity Clinic, and at the drive-through testing clinic. As they say, when one door closes another one opens.

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is such an unusual time for us right now, as it is for each and every one of you. The weather is perfect right now in Durham, NC and evidence of spring abounds. We matched six amazing new interns to join our program in July, and our graduating residents have great plans for their next steps in their careers. But SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 has changed our personal and professional lives in ways we could never have imagined. Duke has been preparing for weeks and the collaboration and leadership across the departments, programs, and hospitals (even outside of Duke) has amazed me and I believe we are as prepared as we can be. Many of the local leaders are Duke Med-Peds graduates, and I am truly amazed by the current Duke Med-Peds residents, who have already stepped up and volunteered to work “wherever needed,” to support their colleagues and to contribute to the programs’ attempts at technologic innovation in education. Wishing you all the best. Stay safe. Take care of yourself, and reach out and tell us your stories. -Jane
In addition to the preservation of clinical experiences and safety of trainees, Dr. Trinh has helped to ensure accessibility to learning by working with the categorical chiefs and program directors on didactics and online curriculum. She has successfully continued pre-clinic conferences and smartly utilized the residents doing virtual learning to assist with the creation and editing of these presentations. She has created a presentation for a telemedicine curriculum now that the ACGME and institution support this for GME. Even the leadership development curriculum will take on a new look later this month, and transition to a virtual format. The remaining three fourth-year residents will give their senior talks via Zoom, and Dr. Trinh expects to host the May Journal Club in a virtual setting as well.

Finally, wellbeing is a cornerstone in the time of crisis. The program has set up weekly check-ins exclusively for Med-Peds residents to see and talk with one another. The program is also using a "Kudoboard" to promote gratitude and unity throughout the emergency. Read more about wellbeing initiatives led by the residents in the Resident section below.

Although these changes have been forced by a pandemic, Dr. Trinh expects some of the adaptations to continue after the threat of COVID-19 has passed. Telemedicine and innovative ways to teach are advances in medical education which the program hopes to sustain.

Carolyn Avery (2013)- Med-Peds Clinic
As the Medical Director of the Roxboro Road Clinic, Dr. Avery has led innumerable structural changes within clinic. Some of these include rolling out and training telephone and video visits for faculty and trainees, moving newborn visits to the Southpoint clinic and establishing Roxboro Road as the sick/respiratory clinic, ensuring remote work of staff specialists, interpreters and nurse clinicians, and deferring well child visits for older children. One of the highlights has been the creation of a drive-through testing center (see upper right photo) in the parking lot. Not only essential to testing patients, it also reduces risk of exposure to those being tested and to healthcare workers. Dr. Avery successfully coordinated these efforts by partnering closely with Duke Pediatric Primary Care and Infection Prevention.

Joel Boggan (2013)- Durham VA Medical Center
Dr. Boggan is a hospitalist at the Durham VA and associate program director (APD) for the Internal Medicine Residency Program. He has helped form team structure changes in order to best accomodate a surge in patients, specifically to increase providers in the ICUs and allow for hospitalist staffing of COVID patients and those on vent weaning units if needed. As APD, he has helped organize changes on teaching inpatient rotations. Similar to other institutions, they have separated primary care offsite and utilized telehealth to conduct visits when possible. Although Duke and the surrounding hospitals are not anticipated to exceed capacity given current modeling, the DVAMC can treat non-veteran patients if civilian hospitals are filled. Many VA staff around the country have already been deployed to sites in hard-hit areas, such as New York.

Jon Bae (2009)- Duke University Health System (DUHS)
In Dr. Bae’s role as Associate Chief Medical Officer for Patient Safety and Clinical Quality at DUHS, he has served as a leader of wellbeing resources and support for all team members. By partnering with Infection Prevention and epidemiologic specialists at Duke, the health system was able to develop an internal model to better project surge volumes and therefore support capacity management. Dr. Bae and other hospital leaders have then been able to develop a strategic plan for the health system’s response. In addition to these novel efforts, he continues to focus on harm reduction (both to the patient and team member) and deploying a quality system throughout the health system.

Nick Turner (2016)- Infectious Disease
Infectious Disease has been central to the response to COVID-19. As an ID physician, Dr. Turner is involved in several efforts including serving as co-investigator and site monitor for a multicenter therapy trial at Duke University Hospital and the Durham VA Medical Center. At a broader community level, he is an epidemiology consultant for Durham’s homeless shelter response to the pandemic. If that is not enough, he is working on developing a clinical prediction tool for discriminating between COVID-19 and other

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GRADUATE AND FACULTY UPDATES

- Congratulations to Jennifer Taylor-Cousar (2002) who became the first Black female tenured full professor in National Jewish’s 120 year history. Dr. Taylor-Cousar works as Adult Pulmonary and Critical Care faculty at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. In addition to this tremendous accomplishment, she has recently authored two noteworthy publications in the *Lancet* and *NEJM*.

- Danielle Scheurer (2002) has been named the new Society of Hospital Medicine president. Dr. Scheurer is the chief quality officer and professor of medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston.

- David Ming (2010) is one of 10 Department of Medicine faculty selected to Duke School of Medicine’s LEADER program which will further develop leadership, team building and productivity in faculty leading research.

- Ann Marie Navar (2013) spoke at the AHA National Conference about guarding against potential health inequity gaps with new health technology. [Listen here.](#) Dr. Navar is the Faculty Innovations Director at the Duke Clinical Research Institute and faculty in the Division of Cardiology.

- Collaborating with other Duke Pediatric Primary Care faculty, Richard Chung’s (2009) proposal, “It Takes a Village to Save our Communities- Collaborative Research Efforts to Curb Gun Violence”, was selected for support through an interdisciplinary colloquium funding initiative.

- Carolyn Avery (2013) and her Duke Pediatric Primary Care team earned a Bass Connections grant for $24,000 for her project “Help Desk: Scaling Volunteer Models that Address Patient’s Social Needs”. The project will start in July 2020.

- David Ming (2010), Richard Chung (2009), and resident Claudia Leung were awarded a $25,000 grant from Bass Connections for their human-centered design project to improve pediatric complex care coordination, collaborating faculty at Duke School of Medicine and the Engineering school at North Carolina State.

- Jon Bae (2009) was promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine at Duke University School of Medicine.

- Ann Marie Valente (2000) was recently featured in the *Department of Pediatrics Alumni Spotlight*.


- Dana Clifton (2016) will be promoted to Associate Medical Director for Quality Improvement in Duke University Hospital Medicine (formerly filled by David Ming), which will begin in July 2020.

- Dana Clifton (2016) and husband, Matt, welcomed Madeleine Clifton Aitken on March 27, 2020.

Duke Med-Peds Residency Fund
This fund supports our current Med-Peds residents in a variety of educational experiences, including participation in research projects, attendance at national meetings, presentation of scholarly work, and more.

Please consider making a contribution online at [SupportMedTraining.duke.edu](http://SupportMedTraining.duke.edu) and clinking the Combined Medicine-Pediatrics Residency Program form the list or send a check to Duke Health Development Office, Attn. Duke Med-Peds Residency Fund, 710 W. Main St, Suite 200, Durham, NC 27701.
etologies for pneumonia-like illness.

Our Residents
Residents have been working in a variety of settings to deliver care in outpatient, emergency room, inpatient, and intensive care units. Over the past several weeks residents have deployed to new sites including Duke Employee Occupational Health and Wellness (EOHW). In this setting, they have conducted countless telephone visits with employees to guide them in testing and isolation recommendations. Further, several residents have served as a team lead in the pop-up testing tents at Roxboro Road Clinic. Interns have worked the VA Acute Care Clinic (previously a fourth-year rotation). Third year residents are helping to cover new schedule structures in the medical ICU.

Residents are rolling with the punches, and adapting presentations to virtual settings. Without skipping a beat, they have presented fun and informative didactics at morning report and MP noon conference. Further, many have taken opportunities of working from home to help develop virtual learning sessions for residents and medical students. Finally, residents have found creative ways to sustain wellness and humanity in medicine. They hosted a virtual game night for the Med-Peds Residency. Govind Krishnan led a virtual session in Narrative Medicine. He and Matt McCulloch are both currently serving as Assistant Chief Residents at different sites and have been key players in supporting residents and facilitating online learning. Residents even recorded video clips to welcome the incoming Med-Peds interns on Match Day.

We have personally been touched by the unity of the residents, the dedication shown to their role as physicians, their commitment to support each other, and the demonstration of innumerable selfless acts of kindness to others throughout this crisis. They are truly an inspiration!

Welcome the class of 2024!

Sandra Bocharnikov, MD
BS: University of Virginia
MD: Duke University

Maxine Chan, MD
BS: Cornell University
MD: Rutgers

Vivian Chen-Andrews, MD
BS: UNC
MD: University of Miami

Samantha Curtis, MD
BS: UNC
MD: East Carolina University

Bari Rosenberg, MD
BS: MIT
MD: Emory University

Ashley Thrower, MD
BS: UNC
MD: UNC
RESIDENT UPDATES

• Katie Wood was awarded a partial scholarship from the AAP to attend the 2020 Legislative Conference in Washington, DC (conference subsequently cancelled).
• Claudia Leung earned a Bass Connection grant for her work on redesigning pediatric complex care. She is collaborating with Richard Chung, David Ming, and other faculty at Duke and in the school of Engineering at NC State.
• Erin Frost and Christopher Zheng were appointed as representatives on the Duke Health Ethics Committee.

• COVID-19 brought two of our four residents on global health rotations home early. Pictured here are Katie Wood and E-beth Hubbard in Moshi, Tanzania and Justin Yoo in Bomet, Kenya. Not pictured is Amadea Britton who was in Mwanza, Tanzania.

Upper left: Interns at their Pediatric Intern Retreat (at the beach!). Upper right: Claudia Leung and Austin Wesevich with Duke faculty, Suchita Sata, at the national High Value Practice Academic Alliance in Baltimore, MD. Lower right: Residents and faculty at clinic enjoying birthday cupcakes made by Aimee Chung. Dr. Chung makes cupcakes for everyone’s birthday! It has become a (delicious) tradition in clinic.
Recent Trainee Posters and Publications


- **Marge DeOliveira MD**, Samrat Das MD, Jane Trinh MD. MRSA Retropharyngeal Abscess with Mediastinitis in a 13-month-old Female. Southern Regional Meeting. Feb 2020 (meeting canceled).

- 2020 Duke Pediatric Research Retreat (postponed):
  - **Erin Frost MD**, Kristin Meola, Rowena Mudiappa, Debi Best MD, Ellie Erickson MD, Colby Feeney MD, Jane Trinh MD, and Carolyn Avery MD. “An ACE in the Hole: A Multi-Disciplinary Team Approach to the Detection and Management of Parental Adverse Childhood Events.” Erin presented the poster at the Regional Academic Pediatric Association meeting in February. It was also accepted to the PAS QI presentations (conference canceled).
  - David Ming MD; Savithri Nageswaran MD, MPH; Kelley Jones PhD; Elizabeth Sainz MSW; Aura Rosado MSW; Vanessa Ortiz; Heidi Tkach; Ashley Cram; Madlyn Morreale JD; **Samantha Dizon MD**; Victoria Parente MD, MPH; Neal deJong, MD MPH. Implementation of Systematic Social Needs Assessment for Children with Medical Complexity in North Carolina.

**After Graduation…**

Amadea Britton will be joining the Epidemic Intelligence Service at the CDC.
Govind Krishnan will serve as Chief Resident for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety.
Matt McCulloch will start Allergy-Immunology Fellowship at the University of Colorado.
E-beth Hubbard will start Pediatric Hospital Medicine Fellowship at Children’s National Hospital.
Katie Wood will start Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship at Duke Children’s Hospital.
Justin Yoo will start Combined Hematology Fellowship at Emory University.

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